

Abstract of the Disclosure

An information storage apparatus comprises a one or more storage media 168 which include a plurality of 5 information tracks. Each storage medium 168 has a head assembly 170 having a substantially planar surface and a plurality of read/write heads positioned in registry with said information tracks. The read/write heads are arranged substantially in the plane of the planar 10 surface. The information storage medium 168 and the head assembly 170 are arranged in mutually sliding abutment such that the read/write heads are substantially in sliding contact with the outer surface of the information storage medium in use.

15 In another aspect an information storage and retrieval apparatus comprises an information storage medium 168 comprising an information storage area, and an array 170 of information read and/or write heads. The information storage medium 168 and array of heads 20 170 are arranged to be oscillated with respect to each other in use such that each region of the information storage area is aligned with at least one of the read/write heads during the oscillation.